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PROMOTING VALUE CHAINS - WESTERN AFGHANISTAN (VC-WEST)

SEPTEMBER 2017 – SEPTEMBER 2020

\$19 MILLION

OVERVIEW

Promoting Value Chains – Western Afghanistan (VC –West) strengthens the capabilities of private enterprises to effectively link Afghan farmers to domestic and international markets, with the goal of promoting inclusive growth and job creation. The project will improve the wheat, high-value crops, and livestock value chains in the provinces of Badghis, Farah, Herat, and Nimroz. The project will also provide support to the Provincial Directorates of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (P/DAIL) in building their knowledge and skills in sustainable value chain development and management.

Improving agricultural value chains provides great potential for economic growth. The project will strengthen the role of the private sector by increasing and improving the availability of quality inputs, introducing improved production and harvesting technologies and practices, and finding better markets and prices for agriculture products locally, regionally and globally.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Increase the availability of high-quality inputs and extension services to farmers
- Build the capacity of agribusinesses for effective and efficient market communication
- Enhance market facilitation of value-added agricultural products
- Increase the productivity of targeted crops
- Increase milk production and improve supply of milk and dairy products
- Increase the participation of women in the livestock industry
- Strengthen the institutional capacity of P/DAIL in value chain development
- Increase access to regional and global export markets

KEY FEATURES

- Close partnership with local stakeholders, especially the private sector, through public-private partnerships (PPP)
- Implementation arrangements with institutions of higher education
- A Project Innovation Fund to facilitate and stimulate local entrepreneurship in agribusiness development, especially women entrepreneurs
- Interventions at the post-harvest, processing, and marketing stages to add value to agricultural products
- A network and directory of input suppliers and service providers linked with the Chambers of Commerce in target provinces
- Interventions to connect producers to national, regional and global markets

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE AND TIMEFRAME

Promoting Value Chains–West is a three-year project that will operate in the western region of Afghanistan, which includes Badghis, Farah, Herat, and Nimroz Provinces. Project beneficiaries will include micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), input and service providers, traders, millers and processors, and producers' groups.

Date: January 2018
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